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THE EAGLE

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THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE • THE CANTON EAGLE • THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR • THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE • THE ROMULUS ROMAN • THE WAYNE EAGLE • THE WESTLAND EAGLE

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Earlier this month, Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib made a special presentation to City of Wayne officials, bringing along a display check for the $550,000 in federal funding.

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THE WESTLAND EAGLE
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Members of the Westland Planning Commission approved the plans for a retail marijuana shop on Inkster Road during their April 6 meeting.

See page 6.

Racist video prompts swift school district action

> *We do not condone or tolerate reprehensible acts of this nature.*

Social media posts by at least one Plymouth-Canton district student include a racially biased video apparently created by the teen. The video shows a white student threatening to shoot and lynch black classmates and was posted to various social media sites in early March.

While the racist video was created and posted outside of school, the negative impact was felt by other students, staff members and families, explained Superintendent of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Monica Merritt in a letter to families. Merritt said the racial and threatening content of the video disrupts learning in the schools and, "We do not condone or tolerate reprehensible acts of this nature."

Merritt said an investigation determined that the video was the work of a student at one of the three high schools at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. She added that the Canton Township Department of Public Safety was notified regarding the content of the video and an investigation into the identity of the perpetrator is currently under way. Police said that any findings in an investigation would be submitted to the office of the Wayne County Prosecutor and a determination of charges, if any, would be the responsibility of that office.

In the letter posted to the district website, Merritt said acts of racism will not be ignored and that the district would continue to work to "eliminate harmful and destructive behaviors and beliefs." Recently, the district implemented a racial equity policy and culturally responsive-based learning programs have also been added to the school curriculum and included in staff orientation and training, she said.

She added that educators cannot address matters that "are not brought to our attention" and urged parents to encourage students to share information with adults or use the newly-established hate and bias reporting form adopted in the district. Merritt said the form is a safe online reporting platform for students and families to document incidents of hate and bias at school or at school-related events.

"Understanding that education is part of the solution, we remain committed to our intentional work to ensure educational environments where students are physically, psychologically, and emotionally safe and represented at school," Merritt said. "Hate has no place in P-CCS, and we must continue our collective work to eradicate acts of racism in our school environments."

Northville Mayor Brian Turnbull reads a proclamation that states April 17, 2022 is Mary Kay Gallagher Day in the City of Northville. Gallagher started her career at Northville schools in 1985 as the early childhood program coordinator, became the principal of Moraine Elementary, was promoted to assistant superintendent and later was named to the top job as superintendent of Northville Public Schools.

Class act

Community lauds achievements of retiring school superintendent

There was no question as to the guest of honor at the recent State of the Community meeting in Northville.

During the event, retiring Northville Public Schools Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher was honored for her 38 years of dedication to education. She was presented with numerous honors, awards and proclamations at the close of the event at the Schoolcraft College Vis Ta Tec Center attended by more than 200 guests.

Gallagher was lauded for her decades of service to the school district and to the community. She received the John Genitti Citizen of the Year Award by the Northville Chamber of Commerce, presented by Northville Mayor Bryan Turnbull. She also received the Northville Citizen of the Year award from Northville Township.

Wayne County Commissioner Terry Marecki presented Gallagher with an official county proclamation in gratitude for her service. While State Sen. Dana Polehanki couldn't attend the official presentation, she sent a state proclamation to Gallagher. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, D-Dearborn, and several other dignitaries and officials were also in attendance to honor Gallagher and praised her success in the district.

The retiring superintendent expressed her heartfelt thanks to the presenters and the community who attended the event and was further honored with several standing ovations from the crowd.

"To all of you whose lives have crossed my path, you've entered into who I am as a person," Gallagher said. "I'm blessed to have spent my career and life's work here in Northville."

Mary Kay Gallagher

Westland city budget includes federal rescue funding

> *It is necessary to begin acting on these matters as quickly as possible.*

The three-year balanced budget Westland Mayor William R. Wild presented to members of the city council earlier this month includes his proposal for use of $13 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding. A second allocation of $13 million to the city is expected to arrive in May, officials said.

As part of the budget Wild presented, he included $5 million for general fund support spread over three years as recovery of lost revenue associated with the pandemic; $3.5 million for public safety and public services vehicles and equipment; $1.5 million for affordable housing and senior care through a collaboration with Presbyterian Village of Michigan; $1.25 million for building and property improvements at the police department, golf course and ice arena; $450,000 for Central City Park pond improvements; $400,000 for the purchase of residential basement flooding mitigation equipment; $350,000 for Hero Pay for all full-time employees (excluding elected officials); $300,000 for the purchase of a tree truck/chipper to be used for power outage mitigation and $200,000 for public broadband infrastructure.

If adopted, the city would adhere to current procurement policies and procedures and would provide a reconciliation to the city council once items have been purchased, received and paid, Wild explained.

"The City of Westland is required to expend the entirety of its ARPA allocation by 2024," commented Wild. "With the current lead time on the procurement of vehicles and equipment along with the need for engineering and construction planning to take place for other capital expenditures, it is necessary to begin acting on these matters as quickly as possible."

Included in the $72.4 million budget for 2022-23 is an overall taxable value increase of 6.15 percent.

"The City of Westland could achieve a major milestone in the history of the city with the adoption of this 30-year balanced budget. The city is in a strong financial position and a 3-year balanced budget is a recognized best practice in local government and is expected to have a positive impact on the city's bond rating," Wild said.

Northville

Northville Township to lower water service costs

After holding water and sewer rates steady for five consecutive years, Northville Township will cut water and sewer rates by 3 percent this summer.

The decrease comes at a time when other communities are raising rates, officials said. The Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) recently approved a 3.7 percent wholesale water rate increase and a 2.4 percent sewer rate increase. That move was, in part, to pay for the debt from Highland Park, which owes $55 million to GLWA. To fund it, many other affected municipalities are increasing raising water and sewer rates.

"Northville Township is in an excellent position right now, so we did the exact opposite for our residents and will drop the rates," said Northville Township Supervisor Mark J. Abbo "We are able to offer this savings because of our fiscally prudent planning and a series of steps we took recently to contain our costs for the long term."

Abbo shared the news with residents, business owners and community leaders at the State of the Community Luncheon Wednesday, April 13, hosted by the Northville Chamber of Commerce at Schoolcraft College VisTaTech Center.

During his speech, he also discussed the installation of a second water tower for the township which should be operational in late 2023 at Legacy Park. A second tower helps keep the water rates low because the water is filled during non-peak hours, when water is at the lowest rate. The water tower then discharges the water to customers during peak demand periods.

"When water and sewer rates were calculated several years ago, assumptions had to be made about future wholesale water costs," said Director of Public Services Bob Belair. "Over the past couple years, wholesale water costs were not as much as anticipated, and this lower cost resulted in our ability to lower costs to our customers."

System efficiencies, including underground irrigation systems running only in the midnight-6 a.m. time period and watering on odd or even days only depending on house number, also helped with demands and rates.

Northville Township will do a full rate study later this year to see what other efficiencies the community should adopt, Belair said.

During the State of the Community address, Abbo also discussed the potential for a new Public Safety and Public Services Headquarters at Legacy Park to help first responders reach areas in the northeast section of the township faster.

"We are so proud of what we're doing here in Northville Township," Abbo said. "We are providing best-in-class services without raising taxes and that's exciting for our residents."

Leaders say 'State of Northville' community is bright

Three local leaders provided an upbeat community update during the State of the Community meeting at Schoolcraft College VisTaTech Center April 13. Doug Wallace, the new executive director of the Northville Chamber of Commerce, served as master of ceremonies during the event.

Northville School District Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher began the meeting by featuring the top 10 highlights of the school district. Among those she mentioned were: being ranked as one of the best school districts in the state; participation in college-equivalent coursework that can earn high school students college course credit; integrated social, emotional, health and well-being programs for students; having one of the largest vocal and instrumental music programs in the state and the "top-notch athletic program."

As a 38-year veteran of the Northville Public Schools District, Gallagher welcomed her successor, RJ Webber, who will start July 1 pending final contract negotiations. The retiring superintendent thanked her staff, the board of education, and all who worked with her and her team during her tenure.

Northville Mayor Brian Turnbull thanked members of the city council and members of the various boards, commissions and volunteer task forces in the city for all the work done to help move the city forward on many fronts.

He spoke of the new construction coming to town at the Foundry Flask site, North Center and Dunlap and at the Downs, where the preliminary site plan for commercial and residential is being reviewed by members of the planning commission. Turnbull said much work has been done and will continue to be done to reconstruct and repair the roads, and the water and sewer system throughout the city.

The mayor extolled the benefits of the waterways that flow through the city - from Johnson Creek at Fish Hatchery Park, where brown trout are plentiful in the cold water, to the section of the Middle Rouge River that is slated to be daylighted as a community benefit of the Downs

Northville Superintendent of Schools Mary Kay Gallagher, Mayor Brian Turnbull and Township Supervisor Mark Abbo speak to the crowd during the State of the Community event. leaders.

Planned Unit Development (PUD). As part of the river restoration process, he said he foresees the creation of a riverwalk that will run alongside city waterways and serve as the last connector to the statewide bike path system. He said the city is staying on the curve of environmental, social and economic issues. Many of the planned projects, he said, should come to light by the city bicentennial in 2027.

Northville Township Supervisor Mark Abbo said the township is closer to transforming the former Northville Psychiatric Hospital site into a "beautiful Legacy Park." He said the township plans to finish the demolition of buildings at the site this summer and create new pathways throughout the park for all to enjoy. A new township fire station will be built in the coming years, funded by a bond rather than taxes. He reported that the water and sewer rates will decline by 3 percent, while other communities are increasing rates. He also announced the construction of second water tower in the township and thanked all involved with the township for being part of the journey.

Northville Public Schools district names new superintendent

Members of the Northville Board of Education have selected Dr. R.J. (Ronald) Webber as the new district superintendent of schools.

Board members voted unanimously to offer an employment contract to Webber following final candidate interviews April 12. Four candidates were initially interviewed for the position.

"This board has taken seriously an intense amount of feedback from students, families, instructional and non-instructional staff, building leaders, and central office. We are grateful for the many forms of feedback offered, often with very detailed and heartfelt messaging. Our search firm, Ray and Associates, provided us with a very strong pool and we identified the top-flight leaders through an incredible investment of volunteer board time," said board of education President Sarah Prescott.

Webber is currently the assistant superintendent of academics for Novi Community School District in Novi. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in history and English with a secondary teacher certification from Alma College, a master's degree in public administration from University of Michigan, and an educational doctorate degree from Michigan State University.

"We believe in Dr. Webber and know our entire community will support him for the best interests of all. While we are sad to see Mary Kay Gallagher leave us this summer, we are ecstatic to welcome Dr. Webber to our district," Prescott said.

Contract negotiations are currently under way and a tentative start date for Webber is July 1, district officials confirmed.

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CANTON - PLYMOUTH

Final indoor Farmers Market set for Sunday

The Canton Farmers Market will host the final Off-Season Market at the Summit on the Park community recreation center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. this Sunday, April 24.

A variety of local food growers and producers have signed on to participate in the Off-Season Farmers Market, including: Baubles by Barb, featuring handmade jewelry; Bittersweet Garden & Bakery, featuring a variety of baked goods; Blue Lilac Skincare, featuring skincare items; Boblin Honey - featuring honey; Deliteacious, featuring loose leaf teas and tea gift sets; Jessica's Confectionery, featuring chocolates and baked treats; Kapnick Orchards, featuring cold storage produce and baked goods; Kapolnek Farms, featuring a variety of meat; One Tough Cookie, featuring decorated sugar cookies; Pick Michigan featuring greenhouse produce; Sign Woodworks, featuring home and festive holiday signs and decorations; Spice Grrrl, featuring organic spices, teas and salts; STEAP, featuring loose leaf teas; The Cheese People of Grand Rapids, featuring a variety of cheeses; and The Rustic Red Head, featuring candles.

"Every winter we look forward to hosting our monthly off-season markets at the Summit on the Park to provide convenient access to our vendors," said Canton Health and Wellness Specialist Jennifer Franz. "Now more than ever we are glad that we're able to help support these local farmers and crafters who provide access to healthy food sources and unique items." Bridge Card and Double Up Food Bucks transactions will also be accepted.

> *Now more than ever we are glad that we're able to help support these local farmers and crafters .*

Tokens may be purchased at the Canton Leisure Services table. Market-goers are encouraged to enter through the banquet doors. Social distancing will be required when shopping in the market area and face masks will be highly recommended.

The new season of the outdoor Canton Farmers Market will re-open from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Sunday, May 8, and will continue every Sunday through Oct. 16 in Preservation Park, located at 500 N. Ridge Road, Canton, MI, 48187.

For additional Canton Farmers Market information, visit www.canton-mi.org/496, contact the Farmers Market Coordinator at cantonfarmersmarket@canton-mi.org or call (734) 394-5375. The Summit on the Park is located at 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton, MI, 48188.

Road Rally will benefit community foundation

Who knows what participants may be asked to find or where they will have to go during the special Road Rally Scavenger Hunt set for this Saturday, April 23, in Canton Township.

The event is being hosted by the Canton Community Foundation of the Local Community Alliance and will benefit the Canton Cares Fund, organizers said.

Area residents are encouraged to assemble a team and join the fun from 4:30-7:30 p.m. for a special afternoon of solving puzzles and navigating throughout the local area which will start and end at the Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit Parkway in Canton.

"We're hoping individuals will grab their family, friends, and neighbors and load up their cars to make a team for this fun special event," said Laura Mortier, recreation supervisor. "During this event teams will solve puzzles, riddles, and clues in an effort to earn the most points, all for a good cause to benefit the Canton Cares Fund."

The cost to participate is $40 per car, and registration is currently under way at www.localimpactalliance.org/events.

All proceeds from the event will benefit the Canton Cares Fund, which supports the Canton community by providing financial assistance to disaster relief, therapeutic recreation (special needs), youth and senior programs, employee recognition, and scholarships.

The Canton Cares Fund, part of the Canton Community Foundation since 2018, has distributed more than $30,000 to those in need.

For additional information, visit www.canton-mi.org/1261 or call (734) 394-5360.

Police body cameras OK'd

The Plymouth Police Department will soon outfit all officers with body-worn cameras, according to a statement from city officials.

While the police department has had in-car video/audio systems for nearly 19 years, the new Bodyworn by Utility platform will link both the in-car and body camera video and audio, officials said. The department reviewed equipment from many manufacturers before choosing Bodyworn by Utility based on several factors, the said. Among the several benefits and officer-safety features were unlimited cloud storage, automatic camera activation, officer down detection alerts, GPS tracking and real-time video sharing.

"Transparency with the public and protection for the officers will be greatly enhanced as the department transitions to this platform," said Director of Public Safety Al Cox late last month. "We are excited about the new system and expect to deploy it within the next 60 days."

Composting service under way

Compost/yard waste collection began Monday, April 4 in the City of Plymouth.

Officials reminded residents that all compost must be placed in a brown Kraft lawn refuse bag or a can marked for compost. Compost can may be marked with an "X" or identified with a "compost" sticker available at the Plymouth Municipal Services office, located at 1231 Goldsmith. Compost includes grass clippings, leaves, branches, and yard debris. Compost does not include sod, dirt, rocks, dog excrement, or potted plants.

To ensure pickup, residents should place compost bags and/or cans designated for compost as close to the curb or roadside as possible, officials cautioned. The bags should be placed with 3-feet of clearance from parked cars, mailboxes, other carts, and other street hazards or amenities. Ensure the lid can close - overfilled carts may be too heavy or may lose contents when serviced, city officials reminded residents.

Complete information about the city solid waste service is available at www.plymouthmi.gov.

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Romulus

‘Eggs’cellent adventure

Annual city Easter Egg Hunt draws crowd

The Easter Bunny hopped into downtown Romulus last week for the annual Easter Egg Hunt in the city. The event, organized by the Romulus Parks and Recreation Department and the Downtown Development Authority, took place in the field behind the Romulus Senior Center on April 9. Youngsters searched the field for eggs to be exchanged for prizes. Mayor Robert McCraight was on hand to help organize the age divisions of collectors, along with members of the city council and other officials.

Hometown Heroes nominations sought by Romulus

Nominations for the City of Romulus' annual Hometown Hero Awards are officially open and residents have until April 30 to submit the name of an individual who goes above and beyond for their community. A celebratory event will be held on May 26 at Romulus High School to recognize the winners.

Nominees in each category must have lived or worked in Romulus for two years and display community leadership, improve quality of life and demonstrate commitment to the community. Further details and requirements are included in each nomination form. Individuals can be submitted in the following categories: Outstanding Business Sector; Outstanding Educator; Outstanding Good Neighbor; Outstanding Public Service and Outstanding Veteran.

“The City of Romulus is full of heroes,” said Mayor Robert McCraight. “Our heroes range from our first responders to our residents and business owners who go above and beyond to make our community great. It is through each of us making an effort that our community is what it is-a great place to live, work and play. Together we are - One Romulus.”

> *Our heroes range from our first responders to our residents and business owners.*

Romulus nonprofit Unity Ambassador Building Bridges (UABB) will oversee the resident and business nominations while the Romulus Fire and Police Department will lead the public service award. Launched in summer 2021, UABB is a community nonprofit for Romulus residents led by Romulus residents. The group is dedicated to removing barriers and celebrating diversity in the city to create a unified community where all feel welcome.

“Uniting the community is our mission at Unity Ambassadors Building Bridges, and we are honored to oversee Hometown Heroes-an award that brings together some of our community's finest,” said UABB Chair and City of Romulus Councilwoman Tina Talley. “Neighbors in Romulus look out for each other, and I pray that will continue to reflect in the nomination forms we anticipate receiving.”

For more information about Hometown Heroes, visit the City of Romulus website.

Cloudy tap water presents no health concerns for residents

There is no health concern with residential tap water in Romulus, city officials recently said.

Officials in Romulus recently noted that while some residents have been experiencing “cloudy water” or what appears to be a white look to their freshly poured water, testing has revealed that there is no health concern or problem with the water from the city system.

Some residents reported the cloudy appearance of tap water to the Department of Public Works (DPW) earlier this month, officials reported.

In an abundancy of caution, however, officials said, additional water quality sampling throughout the city was requested and performed by professionals from the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) which provides water service to Romulus. Those findings confirmed there is no health concern for water consumption, officials said.

The analysis determined that the cloudy appearance is due to trapped air in the distribution line of the source water. There is no health concern with this effect, it is simply an aesthetic look to the water and does not affect its consumption, the report concluded.

Residents with questions about water quality, can contact DPW Director Roberto Scappaticci at (734) 942-7579, or email questions to: rscappaticci@romulusgov.com.

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59. Auctions

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1J8GR48K79C538927
10 DODG JOURNEY SX
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87 HOND GL1200 A
1HFSC1429HA308300
16 KIA SORENTO LX
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07 CHEV HHR LT
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98 FORD ESCORT SE
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13 MAZD 3 I
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13 CHRY TOWN & COU
2C4RC1CG3DR681571
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3GSCL33P49S526222
08 CHEV AVEO BASE
KL1TD66628B037185
03 HOND ACCORD EX
JHMCM56623C036428
12 DODG DURANGO CR
1C4SDJDT4CC205279
15 DODG JOURNEY SE
3C4PDCAB1FT748479
16 TOYT COROLLA L
5YFBURHE8GP529956
14 FORD TAURUS SEL
1FAHP2E84EG125404
07 PONT G6 BASE
1G2ZG58BX74239925
08 PONT TORRENT
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INKSTER - SUMPTER

Trustees reject township administrator's contract

Members of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees unanimously rejected a proposed contract for recently selected township administrator Darwin McClary.

Township attorney Rob Young explained to the board members that he had followed their directives and prepared an employment contract for McClary consistent with the previous employment contracts for other department heads in the township including the police chief, fire chief and finance director. He said the contract he prepared and submitted to McClary for his approval was also consistent with contracts for previous township administrators.

Young said that McClary reviewed the contract and responded with an amended agreement he wanted the board members to consider. Young said he had a phone conversation with McClary and explained that some of the amendments he had requested were things the board members "had not done in the past."

McClary, present at the April 12 meeting, said that he felt the changes to the contract were "not substantive" and were "the norm" in other administrator contracts with villages and townships. Among the changes was his request for 6-months severance pay from day one, with no minimum employment term.

> *The motion for approval of the contract failed by a unanimous vote.*

McClary said he was willing to talk to Supervisor Tim Bowman and Deputy Supervisor/Trustee Tim Rush regarding the severance pay issue. He said the severance provision was predicated on the base pay in the contract and did not include benefits. "I'm willing to talk," he said.

Trustee Matt Oddy asked if the contract presented to the board for their review was the final one under discussion and was assured by Rush that with one change, clearly marked on the documents, the board had the final agreement as amended by McClary.

While no public discussion of the changes McClary requested took place at the meeting, a source close to the situation said that McClary's salary requirement exceeded the published and budgeted amount agreed to by trustees. McClary's request for some unexpected benefits; his requests for amplified vacation and holiday days and his amendment to the daily work hours at township hall were not consistent with the job description anticipated by the board members.

Oddy made the motion to consider the contract noting that the board members would be voting "on what is before us." The motion for approval of the contract failed by a unanimous vote.

McClary wished the board members well and thanked them for their consideration.

Miracle workers

Forgotten Harvest distribution site provides hams for holiday

Area residents who arrived for the Forgotten Harvest food distribution in Inkster last Thursday received quite a welcome holiday surprise.

In addition to the usual distribution of food staples at Womack Temple on Cherry Street, each client also received a Dearborn Sausage Co. ham to help with their Easter celebration, along with bottled water from Absopure.

Hundreds of families visit the church weekly for the largest Forgotten Harvest pantry distribution, explained Jai Simon, the program director at the temple. This was the second year the church was able to provide hams, he said, and he is hoping to do it again next year. While last year the church distributed 450 certificates for hams, this year clients received the actual ham, Simon said.

Simon, 55, said he is not an Inkster resident although he is active with the church. He said in the current economy, many people cannot afford food or gas for their cars and the Forgotten Harvest pantry is invaluable to those who are food insecure. He said the church is the "miracle on Cherry Street" as it is the Forgotten Harvest distribution site for several surrounding communities.

"I enjoy helping make people's lives better. That's what the church is supposed to do ... nourish you emotionally and physically," Simon said.

Womack Temple on Cherry Street in Inkster is the largest Forgotten Harvest pantry distribution in the area. In addition to the regular distribution last week, clients received a Dearborn ham to help celebrate the Easter holiday explained temple Program Director Jai Simon.

In addition to the groceries, several local celebrities were scheduled to attend the event including comedian Simply Shanelle and Grant Long, the Detroit Pistons commentator, along with members of the Inkster Legends of Basketball.

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WAYNE COUNTY MICHIGAN — EXECUTIVE — WARREN C. EVANS — SERVING 43 COMMUNITIES

Wayne - Westland

Coming soon

Blues, Brews & BBQ returning in July

Westland officials are already making plans for one of the most anticipated and popular events in the community.

Blues, Brews & Barbecue will return Aug. 5 and Aug. 6, officials said, with live music, fireworks and the drone light show. Top barbecue pitmasters have already signed on for the event, they said, and there will be several craft brews available at the event.

The event will take place at the Thomas H. Brown Central City Park, and will also feature Country Night on Friday with performances by Corey Dakota, Whiskey Fixx, and Levi Bootcut and The Straight Legs. Saturday night will feature the blues with Big Smooth and The Hellraisers, the Chris Canas Band and headliner, Queen of The Blues Thornetta Davis.

Jointly hosted by The City of Westland, the Westland Downtown Development Authority and the Westland Chamber of Commerce, sponsorship packages for the event are now available starting from $250. To sponsor Blues, Brews & Barbecue, contact the Westland Chamber at (734) 326-7222.

"Each year, Blues, Brews and Barbeque gets better than the year before and this year will be no different. From the music and food, to time spent with family, Blues, Brews and Barbecue is always a major event for not only for the All American City, but neighboring cities as well," said Mayor William R. Wild.

Planning commissioners approve marijuana retail shop

Members of the Westland Planning Commission approved the plans for a retail marijuana shop on Inkster Road during their April 6 meeting.

The proposed business will be located at 8475 Inkster Road between Ann Arbor Trail and Joy Road and would include a lot to the south of the address where a vacant building now sits. Plans for the retail facility include a 3,000 square foot building as allowed under current Westland city ordinances.

Attorney Noah Harfouch told the planning commissioners that his clients hope "to be a benefit and asset to the community" during his presentation of the site plan.

Peter Simakas, the owner of a group home along Inkster Road near the proposed new retail shop told commissioners that he was not in favor of the proposal as the clients of his business were handicapped individuals. "I don't think it's a good mix," he said.

His objections were countered by Commissioner David Rappaport who explained that the sale of marijuana is legal in Michigan and that any disturbances at the site would be a matter for the police and not the planning commission.

This is the second plan for a marijuana business approved by the planning commission. A site plan for a location on Cherry Hill near Newburgh Road was approved last month.

The recommendation from the commission now goes to the members of the city council for consideration and a final decision.

TLAIB
DATE: March 12, 2022
PAY TO THE ORDER OF: City of Wayne
$ 550,000
FIVE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS
MEMO: Goudy Park Amphitheater

Checking in

Earlier this month, Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib made a special presentation to City of Wayne officials, bringing along a display check for the $550,000 in federal funding she helped secure to be used for upgrades and improvements to the Goudy Park Amphitheater. The federal funds, added to state funds secured by State Sen. Dayna Polehanki and State Rep. Kevin Coleman, brings the project funding to a total of $1,050,000 earmarked for work at the city facility.

Choir hits high note

Members of the combined choirs of Wayne Memorial High School recently attended Michigan School Vocal Music Association Choral Festival for the first time in almost a decade. At the choral festival, students are scored by three judges using a rubric that assesses tone quality, pitch elements, rhythm elements, diction elements, interpretation and presentation. A fourth judge assesses the choir on the singers' ability to sight read new musical examples. A combined score from all four judges gave the Wayne Memorial High School Choir a First Division (I) Excellent Rating.

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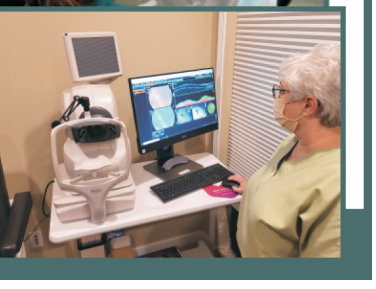

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